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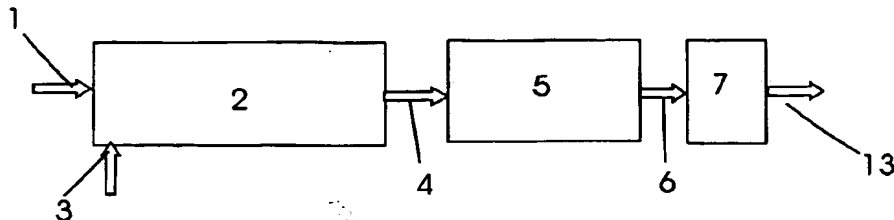
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(54) Title: ION COUNTER



(57) Abstract: Ions in a steady flow sample are counted by colliding the ions in a mixing chamber (2) with a numerical excess of uncharged aerosol particles, suitably glycerol, entrained in air, to transfer respective charges from the ions to charge individual aerosol particles and passing the gases through a separating chamber (5) subjected to an electric field to direct the charges aerosol particles to impinge upon an optical particle counter (7).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 H01J49/10 G01N27/64

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EICEMAN G A: "Ion-mobility spectrometry as a fast monitor of chemical composition" TRAC, TRENDS IN ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY, ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY. CAMBRIDGE, GB, vol. 21, no. 4, April 2002 (2002-04), pages 259-275, XP004371244 ISSN: 0165-9936	1,3,4,7, 9,13,15, 25-27, 29-33, 37,40
Y	page 260 - page 262	2,5,6,8, 14,28, 35,36
Y	US 4 383 171 A (FRIEDLANDER SHELDON K ET AL) 10 May 1983 (1983-05-10) claim 1	2,5,6,8, 14,28, 35,36

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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G document member of the same patent family

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>EP 0 692 712 A (ION TRACK INSTR) 17 January 1996 (1996-01-17)</p> <p>claim 17</p>	<p>1,3,4,7, 9,13,15, 25-27, 29-33, 37,40</p>

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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			CA 2153371 A1	16-01-1996
			DE 69528418 D1	07-11-2002
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